

# ARTISTIC EXPLORATIONS OF THOUGHT

AUDRIUS V. PLIOPLYS

[www.plioplys.com](http://www.plioplys.com)

For 42 years, I have been both a professional artist and a neurologist-neuroscientist. My art work is neo-conceptual: a metaphorical investigation of thinking and consciousness. With over 50 individual exhibits and 100 group shows, my works are displayed in museums, universities and major art collections internationally. I have transformed the artist's studio into a neurobiology research laboratory, merging neuroscience with art.

## **Recent Commissioned Art Installations:**

Valley Peacefulness, Center for Care and Discovery, University of Chicago hospitals, 2014

Blue Consciousness, Blue Man Group, Chicago, 2013

Cosmic Consciousness, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago, 2013

Family Homestead, Brookfield Zoo, Illinois, 2012

Hippocampal Memory, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, 2012

Informatika, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana, 2012

Emergence, American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2012

## **Recent Awards and Recognitions:**

Man of the Year 2011-12, Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, for 2 years work on the Hope and Spirit project, commemorating the victims of Stalin's atrocities: [www.HOPEandSPIRIT.net](http://www.HOPEandSPIRIT.net).

Invited lecturer, Art of Consciousness, Neurology Grand Rounds, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, April 8, 2013—only time in the history of the Mayo Clinic that Grand Rounds were given on an artistic topic.

The American Academy of Neurology opened their newly built headquarters, across the street from the Guthrie Theatre, in Minneapolis, in June, 2012. My art is the only art on display and was commissioned by the Academy.

Neurology is the most widely read neuroscience journal in the world. Since 1951 the front cover was only the table of contents. Tradition was broken in January, 2013, when the front cover, for the first time, had a work of art: Dreams / Explorations, one of my pieces. Since then, it has appeared multiple times in each issue. It has become an unofficial logo of the Academy.

My installation art work, Mirror Neurons, appears on the front cover of Consciousness and the Social Brain, by Princeton University neuroscientist Michael Graziano, Oxford University Press, publication date September 2013

## **Art Works on Permanent Display:**

FRAC Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur, France

American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, MN

Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago

LaGuardia Community College, New York, NY

Mayo Clinic, Department of Neurology, Rochester, MN  
 Blue Man Group, Chicago  
 Blackstone Hotel, Chicago  
 Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago  
 Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago  
 Knapp Center for Discovery, University of Chicago  
 Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, IL  
 Balzekas Museum, Chicago  
 University of Chicago hospitals  
 Beverly Arts Center, Chicago  
 Lithuanian Museum of Art, Lemont, IL

**Collections (in addition to those listed above):**

Art Institute of Chicago  
 Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago  
 British Library, London, UK  
 Instituto Cajal (Cajal Institute), Madrid, Spain  
 Harvard University  
 National M. K. Ciurlionis Art Museum, Kaunas, Lithuania  
 Lithuanian National Museum of Art, Vilnius, Lithuania  
 Monkute-Marks Museum, Kedainiai, Lithuania  
 Lithuanian Institute for Fine Arts, Chicago  
 Kent State University  
 University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, MN  
 New York Public Library, New York, NY  
 Numerous private collections

**Selected Solo Exhibits:**

**2018 Upcoming**

Sla 307, Chelsea, New York, Sybils  
 Consul General of Turkey, Chicago, Cosmic Consciousness  
 Martynas Mazvydas National Library, Vilnius, Lithuania, Gutauskas: Elskus, Kezys  
 Trinity United Methodist Church, Chicago, Columns of Thought

**2018** University of Chicago, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, Columns of Thought

**2017** Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, Cosmic Consciousness  
 Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania, Reconsideration of Thought  
 Marijampole Art Museum, Marijampole, Lithuania, Thoughtful Reexamination  
 Lithuanian Youth Center, Chicago, Gutauskas: Elskus, Kezys

**2016** Zypliai Manor, Zypliai, Lithuania, Art of Thinking  
 Collegium Vilnense Societati Jesu, Vilnius, Lithuania, Emergence



Man of the Year 2010-11, US Senator  
 Richard Durbin, with Man of the Year 2011-12

- Trinity United Methodist Church, Chicago, Columns of Dreams  
 Beverly Unitarian Church, Chicago, Siberia Souls
- 2015** Balzekas Museum, Chicago, Siberia Souls
- 2014** Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago, Chromodynamics  
 Beverly Arts Center, Illuminated Thoughts
- 2013** Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago, Cosmic Consciousness
- 2012** Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana, Informatika  
 American Academy of Neurology, Minneapolis, MN, Emergence
- 2011** ARC Gallery and Educational Foundation, Chicago, Bedrock  
 Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, Mindscapes
- 2010** LaGuardia Community College, Long Island City, NY, Altruism / Culture / Rites  
 University Club of Chicago, Chicago, Emergence
- 2009** Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Emergence
- 2007** Balzekas Museum, Chicago, Thinking, Thought Processes: 25-Year Retrospective Exhibit
- 2006** Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, University of Chicago, Neurotheology
- 2005** M. K. Ciurlionis National Museum of Art, Kaunas, Lithuania, Symphonic Thoughts
- 2004** Wisconsin Union Galleries, University of Wisconsin--Madison, Thinking  
 Akademija Gallery, Vilnius Academy of Art, Vilnius, Lithuania, Mintys is po Uolienos Nuolauzu  
 Monkute-Marks Art Museum, Kedainiai, Lithuania, Mintys
- 2003** International Museum of Surgical Sciences, Chicago, Neurotheology  
 Flatfile Contemporary, Chicago, Thoughts From Under a Rock
- 2002** University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, Neurotheology  
 Oasis Gallery for Contemporary Art, Marquette, MI, Neurotheology
- 2000** Balzekas Museum, Chicago, IL, Neurotheology: from Christ to Cajal
- 1998** Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, Consciousness Defined  
 Balzekas Museum, Chicago, IL, Consciousness Defined  
 North Central College, Naperville, IL, Thinking: Memory
- 1997** ARC Gallery, Chicago, Qualities of Thought
- 1998** Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, Supremacy, Submission, Implementation, Suspension of Thought
- 1987** Galerija, Stickney, IL, Thoughts
- 1982** Dolly Fiterman Gallery, Minneapolis, MN, Doorways
- 1980** Dolly Fiterman Gallery, Minneapolis, MN, Mirrors  
 Galerija, Chicago, Photographs
- 1978** Museum of American Art (previously National Collection of Fine Arts), Smithsonian Institution,  
 Washington, DC, Mirrored Doorway  
 Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, DC, Meaning

### **Selected Two-Person Exhibits:**

- 2012** Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana, Informatika with Peter Gray
- 2009** Lithuanian Youth Center, Chicago, The Brain Deconstructed / Reconstructed Ausrine Plioplys

**1995** Contemporary Art Center, Vilnius, Lithuania, The Form of My Life, with Mary Strasevicius

**Selected Group and Juried Exhibits (over the past 15 years):**

**2016** ArtPrize 8, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Siberia Souls, in an exhibit concerning social justice, Fountain Street Church, sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union

Beverly Art Walk, Chicago, Siberia Souls and Columns of Dreams

**2015** ArtPrize 7, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Illuminated Thoughts, Park Street Congregational Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Color Symphony

University of Chicago, Galaxy of the Brain

Horse Thief Hollow, Chicago, Brilliant Light

Beverly Art Walk, Chicago, Columns of Thought

**2014** Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, BRAIN-ART Initiative

Nails in the Wall Gallery, Metuchen, NJ, The Immigration Issue

Lithuanian Youth Center, Chicago, Donelaitis 300

**2013** ARC Gallery and Educational Foundation, Chicago, Turning 40

Blue Man Group, Chicago, Expo Art Week

**2012** Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, IL, Family Homestead

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, Hippocampal Memory

Lithuanian Youth Center, Chicago, Transformed Lives

Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, Art 19: Chicago Artists Month

TB Studios, Chicago, Mirror Neurons

**2011** ARKA Gallery, Vilnius, Lithuania, To Lithuania with Love

Kedainiai and Marijampole art museums, Lithuania, To Lithuania with Love

**2010** Chicago, Art Loop Open

**2009** Fredricksburg Center for Creative Art, Fredricksburg, VA, A Fine Line

Washington Gallery of Photography, Bethesda, MD, Timeless

Art Institute and Gallery, Salisbury, MD, 18th Annual National Juried Exhibition

Kevin Porter Studios, Boston, MA, Jamaica Plains Open Studios

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN, Prints and Drawings: Works on Paper

Dayton International Peace Museum, Dayton, OH, Art of Peace Exhibit

**2007** Lithuanian World Center, Lemont, IL, Improvisation

**2006** Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA, Defining Freedom

**2005** Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Exhibition of American Art—Art Futura

Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky, Techni-Color

Gage Gallery, Roosevelt University, Heartland International, freedom::response

**2004** Indiana State Univ., Terre Haute, IN, Against Tradition: Trends in Contemporary Print Making

13th Tallinn Triennial, Tallinn, Estonia, In Exile

**2002** Salt Lake City, UT, Photo Op '02, as part of the summer Olympics

Millennium Arts Center, Washington, DC, Photo Op '02

Viridian Artists at Chelsea, New York, NY, XIIIth Annual Juried Exhibition

Lightology, Chicago, Rays of Light

**Education:**

Artistic education: entirely self-taught. After completing my medical internship, I completely left medicine, for three years, to create art. When I left medicine, I had no intention of returning. What changed my mind was a steadily growing guilt: I was not helping others with my neurology training. When I returned to neurology, I realized that I must combine my artistic explorations, with my interests in cognitive processes, an activity that has continued for over 35 years.

Elementary School:	St. Cecelia's Grammar School, Toronto, Canada
High School:	St. Rita High School, Chicago Valedictorian in a class of 500 students
College:	University of Chicago; Summa Cum Laude
Medical School:	University of Chicago
Medicine Internship:	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Adult Neurology:	Mayo Clinic
Pediatrics:	Mayo Clinic
Child Neurology and Pediatrics:	Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada
Neuroimmunology Research Fellowship:	Laval University, Quebec City, Canada

**Commitment to Medical Advancement:**

75 neurology/neuroscience research articles and 71 research abstracts

Over 100 formal neurology presentations to medical professionals internationally

Best reported survival rate results, in the world, for children and adults with severe cerebral palsy

**Neurology Awards:**

5 major clinical and research fellowships

10 major research grants: total funding of \$2.8 million

America's Top Physician, 2004--2010, Consumers' Research Council of America

**Respected Physician:**

"Dr. Plioplys is an exceptional individual. He is extremely bright, inquisitive, knowledgeable, very highly motivated and has developed the characteristics of an excellent clinician." Dr. Burton Sandok, Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic.

**Selected Comments about the Art Work of Audrius Plioplys:**

This is some of the most creative art work I have ever seen. Ivan Karp, OK Harris Gallery, New York

A metaphysical mind. Tobie Lanou, What's Up In Art, Washington, DC

His work caused a fire in my mind. Stewart Turnquist, curator [Minnesota Energy](#), Minneapolis Institute of Art

Blessed with a splendid imagination. Harold Haydon, [Chicago Sun-Times](#)

Plioplys is one of the few Lithuanian-American artists, along with the world famous Fluxus representative George Maciunas, who can be considered to be a pioneer of conceptual art. Ingrida Korsakaite, [Kulturos Barai](#), Vilnius, Lithuania

Plioplys has been involved with some of the strongest contemporary currents—abstract painting, conceptual art, temporary installations, photography—drawing upon the content of one profession to feed the other. Alan G. Artner, [Chicago Tribune](#)

It's different; in fact, it's unique! The bold, bright canvases have an almost magnetic effect. It is his personal determination and fascination with the brain that will bring you back to the exhibit again and again. You will not be able to resist his enthusiasm. Pat Somers Cronin, [Beverly Review](#), Chicago

Plioplys combined the scientific with the creative with some of those results as definite stand-outs in this show. Benita Heath, [Lexington Herald-Leader](#), Lexington, KY

Plioplys asks that the viewer become an active interrogator of everything he sees. One never feels at home with an image or with a particular way of looking at it; images become concepts rather than copies of reality, deconstructions of seeing rather than documents of the world. The strength of this show lies in the way its motifs converge into a powerful depiction of displacement. The texts dislocate the photos, making their subjects conceptual, metaphoric. Fred Camper, [Chicago Reader](#)

In the artist's juxtaposition of pictorial and visual elements the viewer finds elements of surprise, contradiction, tragedy, and peace. Algimantas Kezys, [Lituanus](#), Chicago

Plioplys gives thought material form and attracts the viewer to participate in an intellectual process. Laima Apanaviciene, [Neurology Seminars](#), Vilnius, Lithuania

Physician, artist, but above all—philosopher. Danguole Andrijauskaite, [Art of Medicine](#), Vilnius

One thing is for certain: Plioplys has the power. Fran Addington, [Minneapolis Tribune](#), Minneapolis, MN

May 28, 2018